MARVEL

MK

KNIGHTS

#11

MARVEL KNIGHTS

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DIXON
BARRETO
NELSON

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STAN LEE PRESENTS:
Hero for Hire
ALL THAT UPS MY EXPENSES.
NO PROFIT MARGIN ON THIS JOB.
YOU MUTTS ARE AFFECTIN' MY BOTTOM LINE.
NOW, YOU GUYS WANNA STAY OUT OF THIS NEIGHBORHOOD?
UHHH...
NOD IF YOU CAN'T TALK, SUCKER.
UH... HUH...
THAT'S RIGHT... THAT'S RIGHT.
CHUCK DIXON STORY
ED BARRETO PENCILS
NELSON INKS
AVALON'S DAVE KEMP COLORS
AS & COMICRAFT'S JASON LEVINE LETTERS
KELLY LAMY ASS'T ED
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JOE QUESADA CHIEF
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CROSS THE BRIDGE FROM JERSEY AGAIN AND I'LL HAVE TO GET *ROUGH* ON YOU.

SERBIAN GANGSTAS. *HUNH.* WHO EVER HEARD OF *SERBIAN* MAFIA?

EXCELLENT WORK, MR. CAGE. THOSE MEN WON'T BOTHER *US* AGAIN.

THE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION HAS DECIDED YOU DESERVE A *BONUS.*

WE *DOUBLED* YOUR FEE.

A *CHECK?*

WORTH *EVERY* PENNY.

AND CHEAPER THAN THE PROTECTION MONEY *THEY* WANTED.

A CHECK.

CAN'T TAKE THE *SUBWAY* WITH A CHECK.

AND NO CAB'S GONNA PICK *ME* UP AT THIS HOUR EVEN IF I *WASN'T* WEARIN' THESE RAGGEDY CLOTHES.

LOOKS LIKE I WALK BACK TO HARLEM.

OR YOU COULD *FLY.*

WHO --?

YOUR SECRETARY *SAID* I'D FIND YOU HERE.

HAVEN'T SEEN *YOU* IN A WHILE, MOON KNIGHT.

TIMES *THAT* TOUGH IN THE HERO BUSINESS, LUKE?

WISH I HAD BULLETPROOF CLOTHES TO GO WITH MY BULLETPROOF SKIN.

SPEAKING AS A GUY WHO HAS ONE BUT *NOT* THE OTHER --

-- I'D BE *HAPPIER* WITH THE BULLETPROOF SKIN.

GOT A *POINT* THERE.

WHAT BRINGS *YOU* DOWNTOWN?

I MIGHT HAVE A *JOB* FOR YOU --

-- A *PERMANENT* POSITION. I'LL GIVE YOU A LIFT HOME WHILE WE TALK ABOUT IT.

YOU'D BETTER JUST DROP ME AT 110TH STREET.

GUYS IN WHITE HOODS AREN'T EXACTLY *WELCOME* IN HARLEM.

ZARAN...

MAYLAY TRADING COMPANY

THE MASTER IS *MOST* DISPLEASED, ZARAN.

YOU FAIL TO KILL HIS SON AND THEN YOU *FLEE.*

THE *POLICE* GRABBED ME.

THE MASTER MADE THE TERMS OF HIS ASSIGNMENT *CLEAR* TO YOU.

YOU *FAILED.* NOW YOU MUST PAY THE *ULTIMATE* PRICE.

ZINGH, REMOVE HIS *HEAD.*

AND YOU HOPE TO STOP ZINGH WITH THAT?
MAYLAY TRADING COMPA
KRIIIIISH
YOU THOUGHT ME UNARMED. THE MASTER SHOULD HAVE TOLD YOU...
...THAT ANY OBJECT IS DEADLY IN THE HANDS OF ZARAN.
OFF!
NOW, COME AND DIE.

I DON'T *KNOW* ABOUT THIS...

WHAT'S NOT TO *LIKE?*

MOON KNIGHT WENT TO A *LOT* OF EXPENSE AND TROUBLE TO SET UP THIS HEADQUARTERS FOR US, DAREDEVIL.

I'M USED TO OPERATING ON THE *STREETS,* NATASHA.

LOOK AT THE *THREATS* WE'VE BEEN FACING LATELY. THE CITY'S CHANGED. IT'S *NOT* JUST GANGSTERS AND MUGGERS ANYMORE.

WE'RE THE LAST VIGILANTES *NOT* AFFILIATED WITH A TEAM. WE *NEED* THE STRENGTH IN NUMBERS.

LOOK BUT DON'T *TOUCH,* DAGGER.

OH... KAY.

IT JUST SEEMS TO ME THAT HAVING A *PERMANENT* ADDRESS LEAVES YOU OPEN TO ATTACK.

WELL, HERE'S COMES SPECTOR NOW. TELL *HIM* YOUR CONCERNS.

GLAD EVERYONE'S HERE.

I THINK YOU *ALL* KNOW LUKE CAGE.

WE HAVE NOT MET. I KNOW OF HIM ONLY BY *REPUTATION.*

I AM SHANG-CHI.

DANNY RAND USED TO *TALK* ABOUT YOU. SAID YOU WERE THE *BEST.*

THAT IS PRAISE *INDEED* FROM THE MAN CALLED IRON FIST.

I INVITED LUKE TO *JOIN* US. WE COULD *USE* A HEAVYWEIGHT CONSIDERING THE CREEPS WE'VE BEEN UP AGAINST.

GLAD TO BE ON THE PAYROLL.

YOU *HIRED* HIM?

YOU GOT A *PROBLEM* WITH THAT? I'M *"FOR HIRE."* SAYS SO ON MY BUSINESS CARD.

THE REST OF US ARE HERE BECAUSE WE *BELIEVE* IN WHAT WE'RE DOING.

THE REST OF YOU HAVE *DAY* JOBS, RED. THIS IS HOW *I* PAY THE RENT.

I *FIGHT* THE GOOD FIGHT. WHAT'S WRONG IF I *MAKE* A BUCK DOIN' IT?

YOU'LL *GET* YOUR MONEY'S WORTH.

"AND THAT'S A CASH-BACK GUARANTEE."

UNH!

UH.

THIS BECOMES TIRESOME.

FINISH HIM, ZINGH.

UH?

UNNNF!

AN ERROR IN TACTICS, ZINGH.

YOU SHOULD NOT HAVE DONE THAT. THIS MAY SEEM LIKE A SIMPLE SHOP WITH GOODS OF QUESTIONABLE VALUE...

"...TO ZARAN IT IS AN *ARSENAL.*"

THE LITTLE ONE IS *RIGHT.*

YOU WILL BE ALLOWED ONLY *ONE* MISTAKE.

ARR!

UH!

AK!

NOW YOU JOIN THE *DEAD* WHO HAVE MET ZARAN IN COMBAT.

BRAINLESS *SLAVE.* IS *THIS* THE BEST THAT ---

AHRRRRRRR!

ZAAAAP

HEE HEE.

NOT HIM.

NONE OF 'EM WERE THAT *SKINNY.*

OR *THAT* FAT.

THAT'S ONE OF 'EM. *HE* WAS THERE.

HE ANYONE *IMPORTANT?*

LET'S TAKE A LOOK AT HIS *FILE.*

NO *NEED,* MOON KNIGHT. I *KNOW* HIM.

VIKTOR SMERDILOVISC.

WANTED WAR CRIMINAL. AS PART OF BLACK MARIA, A SERB *DEATHSQUAD,* HE WAS A PART OF TORTURE AND MURDER.

HERE HE HIDES UNDER OUR NOSES.

AND I SENT HIM BACK TO *WEEHAWKEN.*

DO YOU KNOW *WHERE?*

NO, WIDOW.

BUT I CAN FIND *OUT.*

FINISH ME THEN.

NOT YET, ZARAN. MY ORDERS ARE EXPLICIT.

THE MASTER WOULD HAVE A FINAL WORD WITH YOU.

THE MASTER... HERE?

HE IS EVERYWHERE.

IN ONE FORM OR ANOTHER.

THIS IS THE PRICE OF FAILURE, ZARAN.

YOU PROMISED MY SON'S DEATH OR YOUR OWN.

MASTER..

HOWEVER, AT THE RISK OF BEING THOUGHT MERCIFUL, I WOULD OFFER YOU ANOTHER CHANCE.

WOULD YOU CHALLENGE SHANG-CHI A SECOND TIME?

A SECOND TIME, A THOUSANDTH TIME.

HIS LIFE IS YOURS, MASTER. I WILL MAKE HIS DEATH A TRIBUTE TO YOUR NAME.

THEN HUNT HIM, ZARAN...

...AND SLAY ANY WHO STAND IN YOUR WAY

ST. ANSCOM'S IN BROOKLYN.

THE MOOK I'M LOOKING FOR THINKS HE'S FOUND SANCTUARY.

NOBODY HIDES FROM ME.

NOT EVEN BEHIND A CROSS.

.. LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION..

MICKEY.

UH?

I ASKED AROUND. EVERYONE TELLS ME YOU SPEND MOST OF YOUR TIME *HERE*.

JUST *LATELY*.

YOU *HIDING* FROM ME, MICKEY?

I AIN'T HIDIN' FROM NOBODY. NOT ANYMORE.

THAT SO?

THERE'S THIS GIRL...

YOU'RE IN LOVE, MICKEY?

HE'S NOT LYING.

IT'S NOT LIKE THAT SHE'S AN ANGEL. ALL IN WHITE.

SHE CLEANED MY SOUL. I DON'T DO CRIME NO MORE.

THEN YOU'RE NO GOOD TO ME.

YEAH. I GUESS NOT.

EXCUSE ME. I GOT A NOVENA TO FINISH.

SO MICKEY FONDOZZI'S FOUND RELIGION.

YOU CAN'T EVEN TRUST A SNITCH ANY MORE.

THIS PLACE ISN'T IN ZAGAT'S GUIDE.

MAYBE WE GOT HERE ON THE RIGHT NIGHT. THIS COULD BE A MEETING OF SOME KIND.

CLUB CROSCO

WE MIGHT BAG MORE THAN JUST THIS MASS MURDERER.

ONLY YOU WOULD SEE MORE THUGS AS A GOOD THING.

NOT SURE I LIKE THIS. ANYONE COULD BE IN THERE.

MAYBE YOU'D LIKE TO HIRE MORE MUSCLE, SPECTOR?

DAREDEVIL...

WHAT'S YOUR PROBLEM?

I DON'T CARE FOR THE IDEA OF MERCENARIES, CAGE.

I WAS A MERCENARY.

"WAS."

MAN...

THIS IS ABOUT A COMMITMENT TO JUSTICE, NOT ABOUT A PROFIT MARGIN.

WHAT ABOUT COPS? THEY'RE PAID TO SERVE JUSTICE.

YOU SHOULD HAVE CONSULTED US, SPECTOR.

YOU MEAN I SHOULD HAVE CONSULTED YOU.

YOU CAN'T SOLVE EVERY PROBLEM BY THROWING MONEY AT IT

THIS IS A CLASS THING?

GENTLEMEN...

WE'RE A TEAM. YOU'RE NOT THE LEADER BECAUSE YOU CAN AFFORD TO BE.

FUNNY, I DON'T RECALL A VOTE, RED.

THAT'S ENOUGH!

AND WHO HAS MORE EXPERIENCE?

I COULD CHALLENGE THAT.

UH... NATASHA?

YES, DAGGER?

I DON'T MEAN TO INTERRUPT...

.. BUT MR. CAGE JUST JUMPED OFF THE ROOF.

TALK. TALK. TALK.

I AIN'T GETTIN' PAID BY THE *HOUR.*

I GET PAID FOR *RESULTS.*

BOO-YAH *SUCKERS!*

YOU GUYS ARE STARTIN' TO GET ON MY *NERVES.*

I MAY BE *BULLETPROOF* BUT IT STILL *STINGS* LIKE A MOTHER.

UH!

UFF!

AGHK!

GUH!

THE FRONT DOOR. WHY DIDN'T I THINK OF THAT?

HAS CAGE EVER HEARD OF *STRATEGY*, SPECTOR?

HAVE *YOU* EVER HEARD OF A FULL-COURT PRESS?

LOOKS TO *ME* LIKE HE'S DOING OKAY.

NICE *PLACE* YOU GOT HERE, GENTLEMEN.

BUT PARKING'S A BLIP.

WE CAN SAVE OURSELVES A *LOT* OF TROUBLE.

EVERYBODY JUST STEP DOWN. I ONLY WANT HIM. HAND HIM UP AND I'M *GONE*.

BEEN A WHILE, CAGE.

YOU THINK YOU CAN TAKE HIM ALL BY YOUR *BAD* SELF?

WHO SAYS I CAME *ALONE*, SHADES?

YOU *EXPECTED* US TO WALK INTO THIS MESS WITH YOU?

YOU'RE *HERE* AIN'T YOU, DAREDEVIL?

MIGHT AS WELL STAY AND GET *MESSY*.

WHAT'S *THIS*? A *NEW* CREW OF MASKED MARVELS? I KNOW A *COUPLE* OF YOU.

YOU PICKED THE *WRONG* TIME AND THE *WRONG* NEIGHBORHOOD.

SEE, WE ALL JUST AGREED TO AN *ALLIANCE*.

NOW WE CAN SIGN IT IN *BLOOD*.

YOURS.

TO BE CONTINUED!

Shadowcat